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PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHFR #0781 1150900  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 240900Z APR 08  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2753  
INFO RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY 1331  
RUEHYN/AMEMBASSY SANAA PRIORITY 0219  
RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY 0341  
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 2248  
RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY 0796  
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 1145  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 6894  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 8813  
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 1606  
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 1595  
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH PRIORITY 0421  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY 2281

UNCLAS PARIS 000781

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E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [EAID](#) [PGOV](#) [SO](#) [FR](#)  
SUBJECT: SOMALIA ICG MEETING: FRANCE TO ATTEND AS PART OF  
EU DELEGATION

REF: A. STATE 41385

[1](#)B. GAREY-KANEDA E-MAIL (4/23)

[1](#)1. (SBU) In response to ref A demarche, MFA acting Somalia desk officer Frederic Bouvier said on April 23 that the French had been in discussion with the Norwegian organizers of the April 30 Somalia International Contact Group meeting. Bouvier said that France would attend, but only as part of the EU delegation. Bouvier said that Somalia desk officer Thierry Caboche would be the French representative. Bouvier remarked that attendance as part of the EU delegation was not a problem in terms of France's not being an "official" individual member of the ICG. The recent piracy incident in Somalia had raised French interest in issues involving Somalia, he commented. This was reflected in France's work on regional piracy issues at the UN and in its interest in the April 30 Oslo meeting. He said that the MFA would inform us if it had any comments on ref A points.

[1](#)2. (SBU) In a brief April 24 follow-up exchange, Bouvier said that the French were "perfectly comfortable" with the approach set forth in ref A points.

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